



COLUMBIA SAILING SCHOOL

MISSA SW Baker Pre-Qualifier

TIER 2

Columbia Yacht Club

Columbia Sailing School

11-12 April 2026

Monroe Harbor, Chicago, IL

Notice of Race (NOR)

1. RULES

- a. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing including Appendix D ("Team Racing Rules")*, the prescriptions of US Sailing, the [ISSA Procedural Rules](#), the ISSA Code of Conduct, the [MISSA Supplemental Rules](#), and the [Scholastic Dinghy Class Rules](#).
- b. This is a team racing event. Races will be umpired according to RRS Appendix D2.
- c. In accordance with US Sailing prescription to Rule 70.3(b) and ISSA PR 18, decisions of the protest committee are final. US Sailing permission has been granted to deny the right of appeal.
- d. Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 as is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or..."

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- a. The sailing instructions will be available on the notice board by 1700 on Friday, 10 April 2026.

3. COMMUNICATION

- a. The online official notice board is located on Tech score for the event.
- b. All Coach boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on US Marine Frequencies.
- c. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to coaches on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- a. Competing schools and competitors must be members of MISSA in good standing and meet ISSA eligibility rules as prescribed in the ISSA Procedural Rules.
- b. This is a Tier 2 event.
- c. The entry deadline to participate in the regatta is 27 March 2026 at 1700 Central.
- d. Teams may enter the regatta by completing the registration and submitting the entry fee no later than the entry deadline. **Only one entry should be submitted per team, with the competing school's name entered as the "Skipper Name."** Complete team rosters shall be entered in Clubspot no later than 10 April 2026 at 1400.
- e. The online entry form is available through the website at:
<https://theclubspot.com/register/regatta/iHcRIIIWZT/class>



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- f. A waiver will be sent to all registered teams and must be completed by a guardian of each member of a competing school individually by 11 April 2026 at 0800.
- g. A team shall have no fewer than six (6) sailors, and no more than nine (9) sailors, including alternates.

5. FEES

- a. Entry fees is \$100 per team paid through online registration.
- b. No food is provided at this regatta.
- c. A team that withdraws from the regatta after the entry deadline or fails to compete at the event shall forfeit its entry fee.
- d. By registering for this regatta, in place of paying a damage deposit, a team agrees to pay the cost of any damages deemed responsible for by the host/protest committee/organizing authority, as well as the cost of any damages that cannot be attributed to a specific incident/team that is divided between the participants.
- e. Coaches, parents, and chaperones can use the club's facilities. Food and beverage can be purchased using a credit card. **Please see Appendix A for more details.**
- f. There will be no lunch break. Athletes are to bring a lunch to eat during off-flights.

6. BOATS AND CREW LIMITATIONS

- a. Columbia Sailing School will provide Club 420s and FJs. Boats shall be sailed as provided. No other boats may be used in the regatta.
- b. Any alterations to the boats will be in accordance with ISSA PR. 7.11
- c. Any Substitutions during the regatta will follow ISSA PR 4.2.
- d. Each boat shall have at least one red protest flag (at least 10" x 10") affixed to a crew member by a line or bungee. Protest flags will not be provided.

7. SCHEDULE

Saturday, 11 April

0900 – Registration and rigging of boats

0930 – Competitor's meeting.

1000 – First warning (or as announced at Competitor's meeting). Races will continue throughout the day.

Sunday, 12 April

0900 – Rigging of boats

0930 – Competitor's meeting

1000 – First Warning (or as announced at the Competitor's meeting)

1500 – No race will start after this time

8. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

- a. Due to water temperature, competitors are required:



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- i. To provide their own dry suit and have it on hand at the venue on each day of racing as per ISSA PR 2.3.
- ii. On each day of racing, the host will announce whether dry suits will be required to be worn by competitors racing on that day.
- iii. If the air temperature plus the water temperature equals or exceeds 100 degrees Fahrenheit, dry suits may not be required to be worn on that day.
- iv. Competitor's failure to wear a dry suit while racing on a day where dry suits are required by the OA will be scored DSQ by the RC without a hearing. ***This changes RRS 63.1.***

9. VENUE

- a. This event will be based out of Columbia Sailing School, located at 111 N Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60601.
- b. The race area will be in Monroe Harbor or on Lake Michigan east of the harbor.
- c. Please see Appendix A of the NOR for details on access to Columbia Yacht Club.

10. COURSES

The courses will be the Digital N Course as detailed in ISSA PR Appendix 10.

11. FORMAT AND SCORING

- a. The format will be decided by the Regatta Chair (OA), PRO, and MISSA Rep based on the time, weather conditions, and team participation.
- b. The preferred format is as follow: A single or double Round Robin followed by a single "Gold Fleet" Round Robin of the top 4 teams. A team's scores will carry forward to the Gold Fleet.
- c. An alternate format may be announced.

12. SAFETY AND SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

- a. Each team must provide a coach boat that will serve as each coach's respective designated on-the-water coaching platform for the event.
- b. If the event is sailed inside of the harbor, coaching may take place onshore or afloat. If racing is moved out of the harbor, coaching will take place afloat.
- c. Columbia Sailing School may not be able to provide boats for visiting teams to use as their coaching platform.
- d. Coaches are required:
 - i. To wear approved floatation devices as required by ISSA PR 2.2.
 - ii. Drivers shall wear kill cords/devices on all vessels while afloat.
- e. Coaches must stay clear of the racing area unless responding to an emergency situation and assisting competitors.
- f. No coaches and support staff are to operate above an idle speed within 100' of competitors in sailboats, or in the surrounding course area, unless responding to an emergency situation. The start,



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finish, and rotation areas all are a no wake zone. Coaches not adhering to the no wake zone will be required to anchor for the remainder of the regatta, or leave the racing area.

- g.** Coaches/support staff are required to follow Coast Guard-legal capacity while operating their coach boats or support boats. Vessels not operating within legal capacity will be required to leave the race area.

13. PRIZES AND QUALIFYING

- a.** Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams.
- b.** This is a qualifier for the MISSA Baker Qualifier on 25-26 April 2026. Berths will be allocated in accordance with MISSA Supplemental Rule 5.5 and must be accepted in accordance with MISSA Supplemental Rule 5.9.

14. RISK STATEMENT

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

15. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission for any photographs or video footage taken of themselves or their competing boat to be published in any media whatsoever for editorial or commercial purposes or to be used in press information.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

Mike McBrien, Assistant On the Water Director mike@columbiasailingschool.org

Kurt Thomsen, On the Water Director kurt@colyc.org

PRO: TJ Hubbs

MISSA Rep: Katie Tinder



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A few important reminders about our venue:

- There is **NO PARKING** for competitors or guests permitted in the Columbia Yacht Club lot. The DuSable Harbor Parking Lot is the closest option, and is located across the street from the YC. Other options include the Field Harbor Parking Garage and the Millenium Park Parking Garage.
- The Yacht Club asks that parents, spectators, and visitors **NOT** to take seats on the second-floor restaurant deck unless they intend to sit for a meal at the restaurant.
- Sailors may bring outside food for lunch/snacks. However, any **parents, spectators, visitors should NOT bring outside food**. Food is available to purchase with a credit card from the restaurant and bar for in-house service or to-go.
- All sailors can keep their gear **NEATLY** along the perimeter of the 1st floor rail deck of the club ship. Sailors should not go upstairs into the lounge, bar, or restaurant area in wet gear.
- There will be no lunch break, so sailors should prepare to bring lunch to eat during their off flights. A sailor's off-flights might be on the water.

If you are bringing a powerboat to launch, please remember there are no facilities to launch from at Columbia YC or Monroe Harbor. The closest ramp is Burnham Harbor, immediately south of Monroe Harbor.